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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Davis et al.

Serial No.: 09/897,163

Filed: June 28, 2001

Confirmation No.: 1461

For: COATED POLYMERIC FOAM

Examiner: Vo, Hai

Art Unit: 1771

#7
1-23-02
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants hereby voluntarily disclose the information listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks. Copies of items A-D are enclosed herewith.

Copies of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being submitted at this seemingly late date because they were only recently brought to our attention as a result of foreign prosecution; a certification, as specified in paragraph (e) of 37 CFR 1.97, is enclosed herewith.

Applicants further reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the listed information should they be applied as references, and/or to prove that some of the cited information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that some of the cited information may not be enabling for the teachings they purport to offer. This statement further should not be construed as the representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that the information

cited herewith is material, or that there does not exist information more material to the examination of the present Application. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the information submitted herein. On the contrary, the Examiner is requested to conduct an independent and thorough review of the information, and to form independent opinions as to their significance.

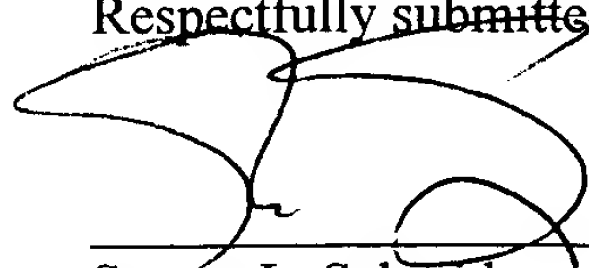
It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 and to indicate in the official file wrapper of the above-identified patent application that each item of the cited information has been considered.

1/10/03
Date

Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC
P.O. Box 7037
Atlanta, GA 30357-0037
(404) 962-7539 (Telephone)
(404) 870-8234 (Facsimile)

Docket No.: A179 1010.1

Respectfully submitted,


Steven L. Schmid
Reg. No. 39,358

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

January 13, 2003
Cheryl West

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37 CFR 1.97(e) CERTIFICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

This certification is being submitted, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, with the Information Disclosure Statement enclosed herewith. Each reference cited by the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office regarding a related foreign application. The communication from the foreign patent office was not received more than three months prior to the submittal of this certification.

Date

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